

Today's Topics:

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Shortwave Radio
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the usenet un-net (roundtable) -- and fidonet, for that matter
Third Party Traffic, MM net and BARF get letters from FCC

Date: 4 Nov 89 02:31:43 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!oakhill!dover!darla!waters@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Strawberry Jammer)

Subject: airport security

In article <1989Nov2.213111.15934@cs.rochester.edu> ray@cs.rochester.edu (Ray Frank) writes:

}In article <30500268@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu> phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu writes:

}>

}>What I do care about is an aircraft being mislead into the wrong airspace,
}>not being able to see another airborne object, etc., and possibly being one
}>of the very low statistics of airplane accidents.

}

}Has it ever been verified that radios and hand held scanners, etc have
}been responsible for some sort of electronic problems aboard an aircraft?

Yes, the first time was a crash in the late 1930's when the LO of an FM receiver interfered with the navigation receivers and a plane flew into a mountain. FM 88-108Mhz, LO=RCVD. Freq. + 10.7 or 98.7-118.8 Mhz The aviation navigation band is roughly 108-118 Mhz (118-135 or so are used for voice). Even microwatts at close range (i.e. inside a metal shell) can cause interference.

I grant its not too likely, but the consequences are so severe that it just isn't worth the risk.

Check Aviation Week for other examples.

}If this is true then how do they get safely over radio and TV towers that are
}putting out many thousands of watts? An aircraft flies over these all the
}time at only a few miles distance from them.

The difference between shouting in your ear and shouting at you from a few

miles away. Its call "square law attenuation" and means that the signal drops off VERY fast as you move away.

And radios and scanners and
}their local oscillators put out only a micro watt or two.

More like a few milli watts, but see above that is far more than enough. Try tuning two TV sets to channels 40Mhz apart in the VHF band and you will see what I mean. The QRM can be seen for 50-100 feet under the right circumstances.

Cellular phones
}and other transmitting devices of course put out much more. But if these
}can cause problems then again the more powerful transmitting cells on the
}ground surely would be a problem too, wouldn't they?

No, for one thin the transmitter frequency is particularly bad for cellular phones and transmitters ALWAYS raise the possibility of RFI. Take a VHF/UHF handi held into an appliance/TV store one day and hold it close to some of the stuff while its operating. Usually 6-8 inches is enough to screw things up with my 5W HT220 on 440Mhz, but I have seen microwave ovens and fancy stereo equipment go crazy from as far as 20 feet away.

There used to be a model of Mercades which would stall if you turned on a transmitter within 20-30 feet of it. It screwed up the electronic ignition. Check QST back 10-15 years or so, there were quite a few articles about it then.

}I once took a computer chess set on a long flight. Could the system clock
}have wreaked havoc upon this huge jet aircraft's electronics.

Unlikely since the FCC has imposed very strict radiation limits on computer equipment for some years. Most portable computer equipment carries a label certifying it as safe for use on and aircraft too.

Once again the frequency is important, a computer clock oscillator is typically 2-4X the "clock" frequency of the CPU so its typically 16-30Mhz which is a long way from 110Mhz!

}Also, some people fly radio control aircraft near the local airport here.
}These transmitters have enough power for line of sight control and real planes
}come quite close on their approach and takeoffs. Yet, I've never heard of a
}problem. What really is the story here??? Inquiring minds want to know.

In this case there are three things acting to help, distance, low power transmitters (.25 W typically) AND frequency - either 50Mhz Ham band or 72/75 Mhz unlicensed band.

In addition any interference from a stationary transmitter is soon "left behind" as the aircraft flies on. The worst effect would be a temporary "glitch" which is obviously erroneous, a transmitter on board the plane can easily produce a continuous error which is almost impossible to spot.

The bottom line is that radio equipment on a commercial flight simply is a risky thing to do, even if the pilot knows about your transmitter/receiver there may well be another he DOESN'T know about. The consequences just to play games are just stupid.

By the way, private or non-commercial flights often do carry ham gear and all kinds of stuff, but there is rarely 300 people on board and the pilot usually is in very close communication with the people using the gear. A VERY different set of circumstances!

*Mike Waters AA4MW/7 waters@dover.sps.mot.com *
Justice is incidental to law and order.
-- J. Edgar Hoover

Date: 3 Nov 89 22:08:33 GMT
From: n8emr!gws@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Gary Sanders)
Subject: ARRL DX NR 44

=====
| Relayed from packet radio via |
| N8EMR's Ham BBS, 614-457-4227 (1200/2400/19.2 telebit,8N1) |
=====

ARRL DX NR 44 (ARLD044) 11/03/89

THANKS TO W9NUF AND THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS DX ASSOCIATION FOR THE FOLLOWING DX INFORMATION.

ANGOLA. LU6ELF/D2A HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE ON 15 METER SSB AROUND 1800Z. THIS OPERATION HAS NOT YET BEEN APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT.

BURKINA FASO. LLOYD AND IRIS COLVIN WILL BE STARTING THEIR NEXT YASME DXPEDITION FROM BURKINA FASO.

EAST MALASIA. 9M8AX SHOULD BE ACTIVE FROM NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 7.

AFRICAN DXDITION. ERIK, SM0AGD, WILL BE ACTIVE FROM EQUATORIAL GUINEA, 3C1, THROUGH NOVEMBER 6. HE WILL THEN BE ON FROM SAO TOME, S9, FROM NOVEMBER 9 THROUGH 12, AND FROM PAGALU ISLAND, 3C0, FROM NOVEMBER 15 THROUGH 19. LOOK FOR HIM ON 3502, 7002, 14035, 21035 AND 28035 KHZ ON CW AND ON 3795, 7045, 14195, 21295 AND 28595 KHZ ON SSB, WITH SPLIT FREQUENCY OPERATION WHEN NEEDED. QSL TO SM0AGD.

OGASAWARA. JA4GXS/JD1 IS EX@ECTED ON FROM NOVEMBER 2 TO 5 ON SSB AND CW. QSL TO HIS HOME CALL. JO1AIA AND JH0BLI ARE ALSO EXPECTED ON ABOUT THIS TIME.

SAO TOME. S92LB CONTINUES TO BE ACTIVE.

SOUTH ORKNEYS. VP8BKX CAN BE FOUND ON 14255 KHZ AT 0100Z AND LU1ZA ON 14015 KHZ AT 0000Z AND 28004 KHZ AT 2000Z. QSL TO LU2CN.

TOKELAU. OH1RY AND SM7PKK SHOULD BE ACTIVE FROM TOKELAU UNTIL MID-NOVEMBER. FROM THERE MATS, SM7PKK, WILL BE VISITING A NUMBER OF OTHER ISLANDS IN THE PACIFIC.

TONGA. A35VB IS QUITE ACTIVE. WATCH 14025 KHZ AROUND 1300Z AND 28029 KHZ AROUND 0100Z. QSL TO OH3GZ. AR

--

Gary W. Sanders (gws@n8emr or ...!osu-cis!n8emr!gws), 72277,1325
N8EMR @ W8CQK (ip addr) 44.70.0.1 [Ohio AMPR address coordinator]
HAM/SWL/SCANNER BBS (1200/2400/PEP) 614-457-4227

Date: 4 Nov 89 06:01:29 GMT
From: cs.utexas.edu!samsung!shadooby!sharkey!lopez!flash@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu
(Gary Bourgois)
Subject: Forgotten Radio History

Some historic moments are forever lost.

We all know that the first transatlantic message sent by Marconi was the letter "s".

The first words spoken on the telephone were "Watson come here I need you"..

BUT somehow, the first words ever spoken over a radiotelephone transmitter have been lost forever.

We will NEVER know what those first historic words were.

BUT, we can be fairly certain of what the transmission IMMEDIATELY following it was:

"The Frequency is in Use Old Man....."

--

| Gary Bourgois, ...rutgers!sharkey!lopez!flash (flash@lopez.UUCP) |
| Nationwide Amateur Radio NIGHTLY after 0200z on 3950 KHz |
-----[WB8EOH = The Eccentric Old Hippie]-----

Date: 3 Nov 89 23:27:07 GMT
From: att!cbnewsc!psfales@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Peter Fales)
Subject: Info needed on Yaesu CAT

I am the new owner of a Yaesu Handheld Transceiver, the FT-727R. A big factor in the decision to purchase this rig is the fact that it includes the CAT system. This is a phone plug input that, according to the manual, takes 4800 baud serial data and gives a computer control over all keyboard functions of the transmitter. Unfortunately, that is about all the manual says.

Does anyone have detailed information on how to interface to the the Yaesu CAT system? This would include the physical interface: voltages, start/stop bit patterns, etc. as well as the logical interface such as command sequences.

I am a new subscriber to this group, so I hope this hasn't all been hashed out before. If it has, perhaps someone has something on line they could email to me.

If there is sufficient interest, I will post the results.

Thanks,

--

Peter Fales AT&T, Room 5B-420
N9IYJ 2000 N. Naperville Rd.
UUCP: ...att!peter.fales Naperville, IL 60566
Domain: peter.fales@att.com work: (312) 979-8031

Date: 3 Nov 89 15:00:10 GMT
From: hp-sdd!ncr-sd!ncrlnk!ncrcce!chuck@hplabs.hp.com (Chuck Rissmeyer)
Subject: Kenwood TS520 - Is it a good deal?

I am about to purchase a Kenwood TS520 HF Xcvr for \$375. It is in good shape and comes with a mic and all the other necessities. Is it a good deal? Will it do AMTOR ARQ?

I currently have a HW101 (I use it to heat my ham shack) and it works OK. How

much can I get for the 101 if I sell it?

I don't know too much about ham radio's used equipment market and would appreciate any information.

Thanks,

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+-----+
|  --...  ....  -..  .  -.-  .  -----  ....  --.      KE0VG      |
| Charles Rissmeyer (Chuck)                                | All ideas are mine alone! |
| NCR Comten, Inc - Information Services                    |                               |
| rissmeyer@StPaul.NCR.COM                                |                               |
| (612) 638-8675                                           | The body is a vehicle for the brain. |
+-----+
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Date: 4 Nov 89 03:42:44 GMT
From: sapphire!pvo3366@cs.orst.edu (Paul O'Neill)
Subject: New subject: Tesla vs gauss, and other obscure units

NEW CONVERSIONS

from EE Times -- 17 Aug 81

Earl rogers, president of Precision Monolithics, has uncovered the following useful conversion factors.

10 ¹² microphones	=	1 megaphone
10 ¹² pins	=	1 terrapin
10 ⁻¹² picolos	=	1 pico-boulevard
10 ²¹ picolos	=	1 gigolo
10 rations	=	1 decoration
10 millipedes	=	1 centipede
1 centipede/second	=	1 velocipede
3 1/3 tridents	=	1 decadent
5 holocausts	=	1 Pentecost
10 ⁶ bicycles	=	2 megacycles
10 ⁹ micrometers	=	1 kilometer = 200 pentameters
10 monologues	=	5 dialogues = 1 decalogue
2 x 10 ³ millinaries	=	4 seminaries (*) = 1 binary
10 ⁻⁵ dollars	=	1 Millicent
1 milli-Helen	=	the amount of beauty required to launch 1 ship
nano-nano	=	a prefix designating 10 ¹⁸

(*) The enlightenment generated by a seminary is measured in luminaries.

Paul O'Neill pvo@oce.orst.edu
Coastal Imaging Lab
OSU--Oceanography
Corvallis, OR 97331 503-754-3251

Date: 3 Nov 89 17:25:00 GMT
From: inmet!benk@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Shortwave Radio

My two top recommendations for receivers are:

1. The Sony ICF-2010.
This set lists for ~\$450.00, and retails for ~\$350.00.
2. The Sangean ATS-803A.
I don't know list price; it retails for ~\$190.00.

Of course, if you've got \$1200.00 to burn, pick up a Japan Radio NRD-525 ... and while your at it, pick one up for me! ;-).

Back on the serious side, permit me to recommend

Universal Shortwave Radio, Inc.
1280 Aida Drive
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
U.S.A.
(phone: 800-431-3939 and 614-866-4267)

as a great place to buy books and equipment for the SWL/DX hobbyist. If you send them \$1.00, they'll send you a copy of their catalog of receivers, antennas, antenna tuners, preselectors, books, etc., etc. They are both very freindly and knowledgeable.

I've also had pleasant dealings with

Gilfer Shortwave
52 Park Avenue
Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656
U.S.A.
(phone 1-800-GILFER-1 and 201-391-7887)

Have fun!

-- Ben Krepp

From uunet: uunet!inmet!benk
From DDN: benk@inmet.inmet.com

Date: Fri, 3 Nov 89 22:15:24 PST
From: jaf@cana.INFERENCE.COM (Jose Fernandez)
Subject: Suppose you only had one frequency...

My most common use of my 2m HT is for air-air or air-ground communication when hang gliding. The clarity and ease of use of FM HT's makes life absolutely wonderful for us pilots and the chase crews. The problem is that other 2m operators may not hear us but, due to our altitude advantage, we can hear them (especially in the Los Angeles county area). It's hard for us to retune in the air so when possible, we request the interfering party to retune. My question is: FM sub-bands might best suit our needs?

Jose A. Fernandez
N6SKY

Date: 3 Nov 89 22:28:49 GMT
From: cadnetix.COM!cadnetix!rusty@uunet.uu.net (Rusty Carruth)
Subject: the usenet un-net (roundtable) -- and fidonet, for that matter

I've gotten a few questions about my intention for the time for the un-net. so, I thought I'd try to straighten it out 'once and forall'.

Here is the gist of a discussion I've had via email on the subject:

> Actually, the intention was to make it be 9am Colorado time,
> regardless of what UTC and Daylight wastings time does. So
> the 1600z should be the new UTC for 9am Colorado time. I hope
> it is, anyway! :-)

So there you have it. My radio appears to be working better than I thought it was, so with any luck I'll be on tomorrow (and, of course, everybody will read this on Monday or later, so take this to apply to next weekend, as well :-)).

73, and I'll be looking for *you* on 10!

(But, don't expect me to recognize you by callsign!)

(And, as mentioned in the Subject: line above, this is not intended to be limited to usenetters only... Or at least, I don't think it is :-))

---Join the usenet un-net, 28.410 and/or 28.390, 1600Z to 1700Z saturdays!
Rusty Carruth. Radio: N7IKQ ^^ or later :-)
DOMAIN: rusty@cadnetix.com UUCP:{uunet,boulder}!cadnetix!rusty
home: POB. 461, Lafayette 80026

Date: 3 Nov 89 17:00:56 GMT
From: cadnetix.COM!cadnetix!rusty@uunet.uu.net (Rusty Carruth)
Subject: Third Party Traffic, MM net and BARF get letters from FCC

In article <8910310803.AA27197@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU> 702WFG@SCRVMSYS.BITNET (bill gunshannon) writes:

...

> Most cellular phone companies even offer emergency calls (like 911)
>for free to the cellular user. IMHO this makes it real hard to justify
>phone patching and in particular AUTO-PATCHING for any reason other than
>to get out of the cost of a cellular phone.

>

>KB3YV

>

Hi, Bill. I'm afraid I disagree here. In the foreseeable future, I will NOT own a cellular phone. Period. Even if 'they' decide that autopatches are illegal because using one avoids needing a cellular phone. So, I will never have a cellular phone to be able to make cellular calls from. So all this talk about getting out of the cost of a cellular phone is really not applicable in my case. I'm not getting OUT of anything, I'm simply getting a priviledge which otherwise only people who like to spend lots of money would have. (As an aside, let me mention that, since I moved to Boulder, I have been without autopatch capability, and have only had to ask someone to bring up the autopatch once (when the phone system at work died and I was talking to my wife when it did...). There is no way that I'm going to buy a cellular phone, thank you, just so that I can call my wife at rare occasions when on the way home.)

Now, on the other hand, if I had a cellular phone in my car, and I used an autopatch instead, then you would have a much stronger case to say that I used the autopatch to avoid a toll call. However, I don't have a cellular phone.

It strikes me that this argument about 'getting out of the cost of a cellular phone' could be phrased in terms appropriate for when the rules were written and it would sound like this:

"Well, you know you can buy all the equipment you need to install a phone at your house, pay to have it installed and hooked into the closest phone company. Oh, you cannot afford that? Well, thats too bad. Oh, by the way, don't even THINK of using ham radio, then, because then you'd be using it to avoid the hundreds of dollars to get a phone installed at your house." This is a somewhat contrived example, but think about it a bit and you will see that 'avoiding the cost of INSTALLING equipment which would allow you to do something you can do with Ham radio' is *considerably* different than 'avoiding the cost of using already-installed equipment by using ham radio'. Especially if you would not normally install the equipment anyway!

Besides, someone mentioned that they felt that the rules were written long before cellular and therefore did not cover the situation we are discussing. I believe that the accepted rule of 'if it is not excluded, then it is allowed' applies here. Now if the rules are changed to say that if you could have used cellular if you had had it then you could not use ham radio to do the same thing (even if you *DONT* have a cellular phone), then I'd agree. Thankfully the rules are not that stupid yet.

---Join the usenet un-net, 28.410 and/or 28.390, 1600Z to 1700Z saturdays!
Rusty Carruth. Radio: N7IKQ ^^ or later :-)
DOMAIN: rusty@cadnetix.com UUCP:{uunet,boulder}!cadnetix!rusty
home: POB. 461, Lafayette 80026

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #840
